

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	Training and Qualifications for Medical Degrees in Bulgaria	DATE DISTR.	5 May 1953	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information				

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. In 1948, the following changes were introduced in the qualifying period for medical degrees:
  - a. Children's diseases, from four to five years;
  - b. Therapy of internal diseases, from four to five years;
  - c. Internal medicine, from five to four years;
  - d. Ophthalmia, from five to four years;
  - e. Surgery, from five to four years;
  - f. Pharmacology, from three and four years to five and six years; and
  - g. Neurology and psychiatry, both were formerly covered by a single examination; now examinations for neurology take place after the fourth year and for psychiatry after the fifth year.
2. Students of the medical faculty are required to pass a theoretical examination after the fifth year. During the sixth year, they have practical training in hospitals. In order to obtain a degree upon completion of the sixth year, students

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must pass a State examination on the subjects taught at the university during the six years. Doctors may practice medicine only after having obtained a medical degree.

3. The medical specialization institute, (known as ISUL (Institut za Spetsializatsiya i Ustvtvrshenstvuvane na Lekarite Kadri; Physicians' Specialization and Finishing Institute), is located on a side street off Kostantin Street<sup>1</sup> in Sofia. The institute has specialist courses for holders of the various types of medical degrees. The rector is Professor Tashev (fnu), [redacted] who is a very capable specialist in internal diseases. Members of the teaching staff include Professor Zonchev (fnu), a heart specialist, and another unidentified professor.

#### Employment of Medical Doctors

4. Newly qualified doctors who wish to practice medicine are required to submit an application to the Ministry of Health requesting employment with the State. The application is considered by a special commission of the Ministry, consisting of one or two Party members. Applicants may state their wishes and preferences on the application form, but the commission usually ignores these statements.
  5. All doctors are employed by the State, and only those doctors over 60 years of age are allowed to practice their profession independently.
  6. Doctors who wish a military career must also send their applications to the Ministry of Health. If the applications are accepted, these doctors become regular officers in the Bulgarian Armed Forces.
  7. The Ministry of Public Health is responsible for the transfers of medical personnel in accordance with local health requirements. Members of the medical profession who are unable to comply with a transfer order for family or financial reasons are deprived of the right to private medical employment for a period of six months to one year.
1. [redacted] Comment: The 1952 Sofia Telephone Directory lists the address of the ISUL as No. 8 Belo More Street.

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